

News Release

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Armstrong Park to receive multiple improvements including a new playground

LAFAYETTE, **IN – May 9**, **2023** – Lafayette Parks & Recreation has announced that Armstrong Park will receive several improvements in 2023 including a new playground, new surfacing for tennis and basketball courts, new bleachers, and grading and seeding across all three baseball fields. The improvements will be funded through Tax Increment Financing (TIF).

"The new playground at Armstrong is going to be an amazing addition to the park," said Mayor Roswarski. "Between the new playground and the many other park improvements, there is a lot to be excited about."

Armstrong Park's baseball plaza is set to receive a number of updates including new bleachers and concrete bleacher pads as well as grading and seeding on all three baseball fields. Irrigation will be installed in Field 2. Fencing on fields one and two will be replaced. Additionally, all six dugouts will receive new roofs.

"The upgrades to the facilities at Armstrong Park will directly impact our youth players for years to come," said Lafayette Youth Baseball president Brent Martin. "We feel that the fencing upgrade alone is going to make a quick impact on the safety and appearance of the fields. Lafayette Parks Department's commitment to Armstrong Park is going to make the baseball park at the corner of 9th and Beck Lane one of the nicest facilities in Lafayette."

Another big project at the park is the renovation of the existing tennis and basketball courts, which will include the resurfacing of the courts as well as the installation of new tennis nets and net posts and new basketball goals. The surrounding fence has already been removed. The asphalt repaving will take place in the coming weeks. Once the asphalt cures, sports court surfacing will be applied.

"The tennis and basketball courts are more than ready for these upgrades," said Parks Superintendent Claudine Laufman. "These courts get used a lot, and it's time. We're thrilled to be able to makes these updates for our community."







As far as the new playground, Laufman expects the community will be very pleased. "The new playground is going to be a wow-factor for Armstrong Park. We're more than doubling the existing playground's footprint and offering a wide variety of play experiences- it's going to be really spectacular."

The new playground will feature poured-in-place rubber surfacing, and multiple swings, slides, and climbing features. The new playground will have a 6,365 sq ft. footprint, which more than doubles the existing playground's footprint of 2,600 sq ft. Another aspect of the new playground is the focus on vertical play pieces. Some of the new playground pieces will have a height of 24ft making the colorful structure visible from Beck Lane and 9th Street. The Parks Department expects the installation to be complete by fall of 2023.

Armstrong Park is the third park this year to receive a new playground. Lafayette Parks & Recreation announced earlier this year that Munger and Arlington Parks will be receiving new playgrounds as well.

"Investing in the future of our parks is so important when we think about quality of life in our community," said Mayor Roswarski. "These park improvements enhance the overall experience for neighbors and visitors for years to come."

Stay-up-to-date on the Armstrong Park project by following Lafayette Parks & Recreation on Facebook at facebook.com/LafayetteParks, Twitter at twitter.com/LafayetteParks, and Instagram at instagram.com/lafayetteparks.

About Lafayette Parks and Recreation

The Lafayette Parks and Recreation Department operates and maintains 700 acres of land within the City of Lafayette. This includes the maintenance of more than 27 miles of paved trails. The city's trails are open to the public and can be used for a variety of activities including walking, running, biking, rollerblading, and more.

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